

Tennessee Storm Animal Emergency Response

Situational Report as of 02/29/08

On Feb. 5, 2008, the State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was fully activated at 6:30 p.m. upon confirmation of storm damage. Department of Agriculture emergency coordinators were notified and reported for duty. To date, Macon County is the only county in the affected areas to request animal emergency services.

02/28/08 Sumner Humane Society: 18 dogs – Injured dog responding to new antibiotics. Owners pleased with progress. All other dogs unchanged.

Nashville Humane Assn: 13 dogs, 3 cats - status unchanged.

Rutherford Co PAWS: 8 dogs - status unchanged.

02/26/08 Nashville Humane: 13 dogs, 3 cats - status unchanged

Rutherford Co PAWS: 8 dogs - status unchanged

Sumner Humane: 18 dogs (1 owned)

*One dog returned to owner Sat 2-23.

(478-2) Male Chocolate Lab returned to owners

*One dog approved for re-treatment by local veterinarian

02/19/08 All dogs and cats from the Macon County small animal intake center have been dispersed to the Davidson, Rutherford and Sumner County humane shelters. The demobilization of the intake center is complete, and HSUS personnel have departed. Each county humane shelter will report a daily census of their Macon County animals and any activity related to the animals such as sickness, veterinary care, etc. Photos of the animals are posted at the Macon County EOC and other strategic locations in the county. A public service announcement was provided the local news media explaining where pets are located and where Macon County citizens may see the photos for possible reunification with their pet.

Animal Census:

Davidson County – 11 dogs 3 cats

Rutherford County – 8 dogs

Sumner County – 12 dogs

02/18/08 Demobilization plan for Animal Shelter population: (Prepared by HSUS State of Tennessee Director Leigh Ann McCollum and Justin Henson of the Tennessee Department of Agriculture Division of Regulatory Services.) Provide a listing of animals and their location to the media and the EOC, Tennessee DART and TEMA.

Shelters: Those that have, or are agreeing to shelter the effected animals – Nashville Humane Association who will reserve seven (7) Kennels (Kennel space equals two or more animals), approximately thirteen (13) dogs, three (3) felines. Wilson Humane Association will reserve two puppy kennels, for small dogs or puppies. Rutherford County PAWS will reserve room through ACO's. Humane

Society of Sumner County will take eight (8) dogs. Hold will be until March 7, 2008 which is thirty days from tornado strike. At which time all unclaimed animals will be permanently relinquished and all title and ownership of the animal will be to the holding shelter. Those shelters will not sterilize animals until March 7, 2008. All animals that are at those shelters after March 7, 2008 will be adopted through each shelters customary adoption procedures. Fees and payment will be directly to those shelters. Information on individual animal (photos, shelter location, etc.) will be posted in the Macon County EOC and at other strategic sites in the affected area as well as notices (PSAs) provided to the local media. Macon County Residents will have priority in animal adoptions but adoptions must be completed on the first day of adoption period.

Veterinarian care: Urgent, emergency, life threatening veterinarian care is authorized; all other medical needs must go through TDA's animal emergency coordinator, Dr. Bob Linnabary, for authorization. Those veterinarian's who provide care must submit a statement through the Macon County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) for payment. Plan submitted through the Macon County Emergency Operations Center, at the request and to be directed to Dr. Robert Linnabary, DVM Staff Veterinarian, Disaster Animal Response Coordinator, ESF -16.

Animal census:

- 0 large animal
- 52 total animals in intake shelter
- 0 animals reclaimed by owners
- 8 animals housed for owners in ARC shelter

02/17/08 Weather conditions poor with low temperatures and rain. Cell phone coverage limited to Verizon customers.

Local veterinarian examining and treating animals at the small animal intake shelter. A survey of horse and livestock owners will be done tomorrow to determine short and long term hay requirements.

Demobilization plan still in place. Several dog food drops were made for owners in need of pet food.

Animal census:

- 0 large animals
- 48 small animals at intake center
 - 1 reclaimed by owner
 - 1 dog turned in

02/16/08 TDA Commissioner Ken Givens visited Macon County and talked to county officials, personnel, farmers, Ag Extension agent and others affected by the tornado. He also visited Browning Livestock Market, the small animal intake center and two area farms.

Demobilization target date is 02/20/08

Animals belonging to people in ARC shelter will be reunited. Other animals will be removed to approved shelters in surrounding counties and kept for 30 days.

All animals not reclaimed by owners will be neutered and placed for adoption. Macon County residents will given first priority for adoption. Notices (with animal photos) will be placed with the local media and posted in strategic places in Macon County. Macon County authorities must approve the plan.

All parts of the county are now open to the public

Animal census:

0 large animals

52 animals total in small animal intake shelter

0 reclaimed

8 housed for owners in ARC shelter

02/15/08 Cell phone service limited in Macon County except for Verizon coverage
Landline placed at small animal intake shelter. Begin plans for demobilization of TDA response teams (HSUS and others).

Local veterinarian examining and treating animals at intake shelter

Animal census:

0 large animals

52 total dogs and cats

3 reclaimed by owners

8 being housed for owners in ARC shelter

02/12/08 11:38 a.m. – Report of continuing cleanup and disposal in Macon Co. with 20 head of dead cattle located in some brush and were buried. Primary job for TDA personnel is working with local ag Extension (Steve Walker) to locate dead animals for burial by Solid Waste Management. Private contractors are being used for cleanup.

Meeting was held by Macon County USDA Farm Service Agency, Extension, TDA and others to estimate value of agricultural damages as follows:

\$29 million in structures, fencing, and infrastructure

\$6 million for cleanup

\$10 million in livestock, horses and timber

\$45 million total

175 farm homes destroyed and unknown number of barns and other outbuildings

3:00 p.m. – Humane Society of the United States is deployed in stray animal intake and receiving calls on stray pick up with 7 personnel on-site

Local veterinarian is doing vet checks, triage and treatments

3 puppies euthanized due to parvo virus infection.

2 strays were evacuated to intake shelter and 2 dogs were brought in by the public. 2 dogs and 2 cats were returned to their owners.

End of Day Animal Count:

Strays 30

3 owner identified
Total 33

Local volunteers are used at the intake shelter

02/11/08 8:30 a.m. – TDA Assistant State Veterinarian providing direction for animal care in Macon County.

10:14 a.m. – TDA reports that animal disposal is continuing.

12:33 p.m. Additional injured animals received and local veterinarians are completing the emergency animal services task.

Daily Animal Census Report:

Reported 29 dogs, 1 cat sheltered. Nashville Humane Society providing limited pet-friendly operations at adjacent site with 2 volunteers. TN DART members assisting with animal care during the day. Possible 2-14 dogs at county animal shelter to be transferred to our fairgrounds location on Monday.

02/10/08 9:17 a.m. – TDEC Solid Waste Management and TDA agree that animal carcasses should be buried on the farm. If the owner is not able to bury the carcasses, they can be disposed in the Smith County landfill. Carcasses will be taken to debris staging #1 by Smith County. The logistics and movement of the carcasses is still being addressed.

10:18 a.m. – Animal census at the stockyard is 21 livestock; 20 companion animals at stray intake, 13 dogs and cats at the Red Cross/NHA co-location shelter.

10:30 a.m. – Animals recovered were those found by law enforcement, National Guard, electric line crews, etc.

02/09/08 8:28 a.m. -Hamilton and Wilson DARTs in Macon County, Justin Henson, TDA, is Task Force Leader. Hamilton DART picked up 62 head of cattle, horses and goats. Wilson DART picked up 20 dogs and cats. Sunday, HSUS will replace Wilson County DART. The mission will be to continue to pick stray and injured animals. HSUS will maintain the stray animal intake.

12:09 p.m. – Offers of truck loads of hay are being documented in the event of requests for hay. There have been no requests so far and there is no acceptable storage at present. TDA has 2 employees in Macon County facilitating animal assistance efforts.

Direction will continue under the State Veterinarians Office – POC, Justin Henson

** Macon County EOC notification that the Disaster has changed from a response mode to recovery.

02/08/08 7:59 a.m. – Presidential Emergency Declaration declared.

9:32 a.m. – Wilson County DART deployed to Macon County.

10:30 a.m. – Verified that there are no permitted dairy farms in Macon and Trousdale Cos. There are 7 permitted dairy farms in Sumner Co. however none appear to have been located in the path of destruction. Numerous calls are coming in with offers of animal assistance from both within and outside TN but to this point in time all requests from the affected counties have been addressed. There is some concern that persons are going to the affected areas on their own without being requested for assistance and may be putting themselves or others in danger. Public notification advising against this action may be advisable.

12:34 p.m. – Reports of livestock and companion animals being transported out of storm affect counties. The only authorized animal response team deployed is the Wilson Co. DART. Law enforcement alerted to watch for animal thefts.

1:37 p.m. – Macon County requests DARTs for tomorrow to assist with stray animal pick up. Local media will announce the purpose of the DARTs.

1:53 p.m. – Macon County requests status of a mobile animal shelter. It was determined that the group was self-deployed and was sent home.

2:14 p.m. – Shelters for stray livestock and pets have been arranged.

2:24 p.m. – Hamilton and Wilson County DARTs report their readiness to deploy early tomorrow.

3:15 p.m. – Macon County confirms status of DARTs for tomorrow deployment.

02/07/08 10:50 a.m. – Macon County EOC requests DART. There is no DART in Macon County. Wilson County DART has been contacted and is enroute.

Animal Census:

41 horses and cattle are housed at the Macon County livestock barn. Six stray dogs and 1 cat are at the NHA mobile shelter.

02/06/08 8:52 a.m. – Reports from Macon County saying there are alive and dead cattle and horses and need assistance in containing the live animals and disposing of the dead ones.

8:54 a.m. – Requests made to Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Division of Solid Waste Management (SWM) to manage the dead animals.

9:02 a.m. – Wilson County Disaster Animal Response Team (DART) asked to respond to Macon County request.

10:38 a.m. – Wilson County confirms they will respond.

10:57 a.m. – All animal food and supply donations will be routed through the TEMA Donations Office.

4:53 p.m. – Nashville Red Cross requests the Nashville Humane Association deploy mobile animal shelter to the Macon County emergency shelter at the Armory in Lafayette. This unit (ROVER) can house 50 animals and if more is needed, a second unit will be deployed which can house 20 animals.

5:15 p.m. – NHA is ready to deploy.

10:26 p.m. – NHA is on scene at the Armory.

10:34 p.m. – Wilson DART reports that there are a large number of animals linjured and dead. Most of the day was spent in helping animal owners with their animals and helping recover animals from a collapsed barn (sheep). Several animals were taken to veterinary clinics outside of Macon County for care of injuries. One sheep was euthanized because of severe injuries.

02/05/08 9:30 p.m. – Tornado touch down reported in Macon County.